

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-26. (Cancelled)

27. (Original) A method for updating contents of a first memory of a computer system, said method comprising the steps of:

- a) receiving new information intended for said first memory from an external source, said first memory for storing information that is required during startup of said computer system;
- b) storing said new information in a second memory of said computer system, said second memory capable of retaining information stored therein upon a restart of said computer system;
- c) restarting said computer system using said new information in said second memory instead of existing information in said first memory to test said new information;
- d) responsive to a positive test result from said step c), loading said new information from said second memory into said first memory such that said new information can be used for a subsequent startup of said computer system; and
- e) responsive to a negative test result from said step c), restarting said computer system using said existing information in said first memory.

28. (Original) The method as recited in Claim 27 wherein said first memory comprises a flash read-only memory (ROM).

29. (Original) The method as recited in Claim 27 wherein said second memory comprises a random-access memory (RAM).

30. (Original) The method as recited in Claim 27 wherein said computer system is a personal digital assistant (PDA).

31. (New) A computer system comprising:

a processor;

a first memory, coupled to said processor, for storing information that is required during startup of said computer system;

an input output device, coupled to said processor, for receiving new information intended for said first memory from an external source;

a second memory, coupled to said processor, for storing said new information, said second memory capable of retaining information stored therein upon a restart of said computer system;

said processor for restarting said computer system using said new information in said second memory instead of existing information in said first memory to test said new information; said processor further for loading said new information from said second memory into said first memory such that said new

information can be used for a subsequent startup of said computer system in response to a positive test result from said restarting; and said processor also for restarting said computer system using said existing information in said first memory in response to a negative test result from said restarting.

32. (New) The computer system of Claim 31 wherein said first memory comprises a flash read-only memory (ROM).

33. (New) The computer system of Claim 31 wherein said second memory comprises a random-access memory (RAM).

34. (New) The computer system of Claim 31 wherein said computer system is a personal digital assistant (PDA).